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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
313 N. Figueroa, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 240-8101

October 1, 2004

REVISED

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE SYPHILIS ELIMINATION SERVICES  
WITH AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION AND L.A. GAY AND LESBIAN CENTER**  
(All Districts) (3 Votes)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of Health Services, or his designee, to approve and sign a sole source agreement with AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) in the amount of \$121,150, and delegate authority to the Director of Health Services or his designee, to execute Amendment #6 to County Agreement No. H-211172, with the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center (LAGLC), in the amount of \$80,000, for an increase in services, both 100% offset by Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Comprehensive STD Prevention Systems (CSPS) funds, effective date of Board approval through December 31, 2004 for the provision of Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD)/HIV screening, treatment, and expanded clinical services servicing the Department of Health Services' Metro Service Planning Area (SPA) 4, contingent upon review and approval by County Counsel.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Health Services, or his designee, to approve Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. H 700193 with AHF to: 1) increase the County's maximum obligation by \$106,300, from \$371,269 to \$477,569, 100% offset by CSPS funds for additional STD Syphilis Social Marketing Campaign services; and 2) extend the term of the existing agreement for one additional month, from December 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004, contingent upon review and approval by County Counsel.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

In approving the recommended actions, the Board is authorizing the Director of Health Services or his designee, to sign a new agreement with AHF, and to amend existing agreements with AHF and LAGLC, for two syphilis elimination projects: 1) A sole source agreement with AHF and an amendment to an existing agreement with LAGLC to enhance clinical services in SPA 4 to the high risk population of men having sex with men (MSM) by including additional and evening clinic hours, which include the following: a) increased detection and treatment of syphilis, chlamydia, gonorrhea and other STDs among MSM; b) increased assessment and vaccination of MSM for hepatitis A and B; c) assessment of the prevalence among MSM of oral and rectal gonorrhea, and rectal chlamydia; d) validation of more sensitive diagnostic tests for rectal gonorrhea and chlamydia by the Public Health Laboratory; and e) increased opportunities to deliver STD/HIV prevention education to high risk MSM; and 2) A syphilis social marketing campaign, contracted with AHF, targeted for testing, treatment, and reducing transmission of syphilis among the MSM population. The syphilis social marketing campaign has increased STD awareness and prevention by integrating the perspectives of the targeted community into all aspects of the campaign.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The total maximum County obligation for the new Agreement with AHF for STD screening and treatment services is in the amount of \$121,150, effective date of Board approval through December 31, 2004, 100% offset by CSPA funding for CY 2004.

Amendment #6 to Agreement No. H-211172 with LAGLC for STD screening and treatment services increases the total maximum obligation of this agreement from \$383,518 to \$463,518, with a net County cost of \$288,214 and CDC funding of \$175,304 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004-05. The \$80,000 augmentation is 100% offset by CSPA funds and must be used from the date of Board approval through December 31, 2004.

Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. H 700193 with AHF increases the County's maximum obligation by \$106,300, from \$371,269 to \$477,569, 100% offset by CSPA funding. The \$106,300 is comprised of \$40,554 of unspent CSPA funds from CY 2003 and \$65,746 from the CSPA CY 2004 funding allocation.

Funding is included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2004-05 Final Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

In March 2000, the Department's STD Program became aware of a new syphilis outbreak among MSM in Los Angeles County. As a result, the Board authorized the use of DHS funds to address this outbreak, including funds to increase testing at commercial sex venues (CSVs) for MSM, testing and treatment at the K-11 unit for gay men and transgenders in the Men's County Jail.

In early 2001, new syphilis cases among MSM began to increase. By the end of 2001, a total of 387 new syphilis cases had been reported in Los Angeles County, compared with 330 in 2000. Of these 387 cases, 175 (45%) were known to be among MSM (compared with 127 known MSM cases in 2000). Of the 175 known MSM cases in 2001, 100 (58.5%) were Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) positive.

On September 4, 2001, the Department responded to a August 20, 2001 Board motion to develop and implement a plan for additional efforts to be taken to address the level of endemic syphilis infection.

During December 2001, the Department worked closely with the Syphilis Media Organizing Committee (SMOC) and a consortium of community agencies serving the affected population for a 2001 holiday media campaign in the amount of \$55,655 to address critical needs during the holiday period.

In December, 2001 the Board approved an agreement with AHF to conduct a Social Marketing Campaign targeting syphilis among the MSM population through the 2001 holiday period. The agreement with AHF enabled the Department to address the on-going problems of the target population, address high risk behaviors in the MSM population, respond to community concerns, and accomplish media-related objectives of the year 2000 syphilis media campaign.

On April 30, 2002, the Board approval an agreement with AHF with a maximum County obligation of \$394,345, 100% offset by net County cost for the development and implementation of a STD Syphilis Social Marketing Campaign through May 31, 2003.

On May 20, 2003, the Board approved Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. H-207538-1 with AHF to extend the term of the Agreement through November 30, 2003, with no additional net County cost.

On December 9, 2003 the Board approval a new Agreement with AHF with a maximum obligation of \$371,269, 100% offset by CDC funding through November 30, 2004 for the continued provision of the Syphilis Social Marketing Campaign. The objective of the campaign, known as, "Stop the Sores," was to increase syphilis testing among MSM.

The County has contracted with LAGLC since 1974 to provide STD screening, treatment, case finding and education services.

On June 29, 2004, the Board approved Amendment #5 to Agreement # H-211172 with LAGLC, increasing the County's maximum obligation by \$95,304 from \$288,214 to \$383,518 for an increase in services for FY 2004-05.

On August 9, 2004, the Department accepted CSPS Notice of Grant Award No. H25/CCH904366-13-7, through the delegated authority approved by the Board on December 9, 2003, in the amount of \$3,019,667 in Financial Assistance to support the continuation of STD services for CY 2004. The Department also identified supplemental funding for service areas in which STD services could be enhanced through December 31, 2004. CSPS project funding for local governments will expire on December 31, 2004 and all funding allocations must be spent by the end of the project term.

Recommended actions are subject to County Counsel review and approval as to form.

Board approval of the recommended actions will provide increased funding support for AHF and LAGLC to extend clinical hours for STD screening and treatment in Metro SPA 4 and will provide additional time for AHF to maximize funding support and services for the syphilis social marketing campaign Countywide.

Attachment A provides additional information.

#### CONTRACTING PROCESS:

AHF serves as the fiscal agent for the syphilis social marketing campaign and subcontracts with a consortium of agencies to carry out project goals and objectives.

Because the additional STD screening and treatment must be used by December 31, 2004, the Department looked for existing providers in SPA 4 with the capacity to quickly increase services. AHF has existing clinical facilities available for immediate use which currently provide services to HIV-positive individuals during daytime hours and can be easily converted to provide general STD services for MSM during evening hours. LAGLC has existing clinical facilities which can be used more hours per week for STD screening and treatment with additional resources.

The agreement with AHF to extend clinic hours was awarded on a sole source basis due to their ability to utilize existing clinical facilities quickly and their experience in improving the level of services to the MSM population. AHF is well known to the MSM population and to Los Angeles County. AHF is the largest provider of clinical services to HIV-positive MSM and the largest provider of mobile STD testing services specifically targeting MSM in the County.

Services provided under the current LAGLC agreement were initially awarded on a sole source basis. LAGLC has proven successful in encouraging sexually active gay or bisexual men and women in Los Angeles County, who have contagious, infectious, or communicable STDs to seek proper medical treatment and care.

The Department will conduct a competitive process for STD screening and treatment services for the MSM population for FY 2005-06.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

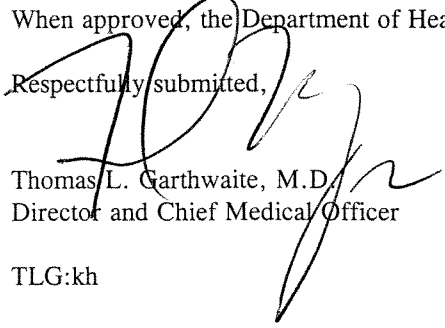
Early syphilis cases have increased in California from 569 cases in 1999 to over 2200 cases from 2000 through 2003. Most of these cases have occurred in men who have sex with men.

MSM cases continue to be concentrated heavily in Metro SPA 4. At this time, syphilis infection remains a significant endemic problem among MSM. Approval of the agreements with AHF and LAGLC for additional clinic hours for STD screening and treatment will provide available resources to meet the urgent need for expanded STD services for MSM in Los Angeles County.

Approval of Amendment No. 1 with AHF for a social marketing campaign will allow the Department to continue to improve the level of services to the MSM population through a comprehensive social marketing campaign and to collaborate with experienced and qualified community-based organizations in our local syphilis elimination efforts.

When approved, the Department of Health Services requires three signed copies of the Board's action.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D.  
Director and Chief Medical Officer

TLG:kh

Attachments

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

CD1994.KH.wpd

SUMMARY OF AGREEMENT1. TYPE OF SERVICES:

Services include a syphilis social marketing campaign to increase syphilis testing and treatment and decrease syphilis transmission among men who have sex with men and enhanced STD clinical services for the MSM population in Metro Service Planning Area (SPA) 4.

2. AGENCY INFORMATION:

AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Inc.  
6255 West Sunset Blvd., 21 Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90028  
Attention: Karen Mall, Director - Prevention Programs  
Telephone: (323) 436-5001 Facsimile: (323) 436-5030  
e-mail address: [www.ahf.org](http://www.ahf.org)

L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center (LAGLC)  
1625 North Schrader Blvd.  
Los Angeles, California 90028-6123  
Attention: Robert Bolan, Director of Health Services  
Telephone: (323) 993-7500 Facsimile: (323) 993-7599  
e-mail address: [www.laglc.org](http://www.laglc.org)

3. TERM OF AGREEMENT:

The new Agreement with AHF and Amendment #6 to Agreement No. H 211172 with LAGLC are effective date of Board approval through December 31, 2004. Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. H 700193 is effective date of Board approval through December 31, 2004.

4. FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The total maximum County obligation for the Agreement with AHF for STD screening and treatment is in the amount of \$121,150, effective date of Board approval through December 31, 2004, 100 % offset by CSPS funding for CY 2004.

Amendment #6 to Agreement No. H-211172 with LAGLC for STD screening and treatment services increases the total maximum obligation of this agreement from \$383,518 to \$463,518, with a net County cost of \$288,214 and CDC funding of \$175,304 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004-05. The \$80,000 augmentation is 100% offset by CSPS funding and must be used from the date of Board approval through December 31, 2004.

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Funding is included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2004-05 Final Budget.

5. GEOGRAPHIC AREA TO BE SERVED:

The STD screening and treatment services are in SPA 4. Services for the Social Marketing Campaign are Countywide.

6. DESIGNATED ACCOUNTABLE FOR PROJECT MONITORING:

John F. Schunhoff, Ph.D., Chief of Operations

7. APPROVALS:

Public Health:	John F. Schunhoff, Ph.D., Chief of Operations
Contract Administration:	Irene E. Riley, Director
County Counsel (approval as to form):	Kelly Auerbach-Hassel, Deputy County Counsel